

# West Australian Rails

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CD4303 on Roy Hill sleeper train with tracklayer on rear [that is leading when laying track with locomotive pushing] about 90km south of Port Hedland 6th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery

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This special edition of West Australian Rails is being published to enable full coverage to rail operations out of Port Hedland be given rather than a few photos in the monthly e-mag. Once there was only the Mt Newman Mining line to Mt Whaleback at Mt Newman running south from Port Hedland that was duplicated following expansion of BHPBIO into what was Goldsworthy Mining Area C. Then came Fortescue Mining Group who fought BHPBIO in the courts for access to its Pilbara rail lines. FMG subsequently built their own line to service their Cloudbreak mine and further expanded their operations west to Solomon Hub. This saw a line branching off westwards from FMG main line to serve these new mines. Finally Roy Hill Mining commenced construction of a new line south to serve the long held Hancock Mining leases, construction of this new line is now underway. Long time Port Hedland resident Toad Montgomery has been able to photograph the operations of BHPBIO, FMG and Roy Hill over a few days earlier this month and this is an update snapshot of train running and line construction in that area of the Pilbara.



CD4303 on the Roy Hill tracklaying train 6th August with the FMG line in foreground showing how close both these lines are some 90km south of Port Hedland. Both photos Toad Montgomery



Tracklaying machine being used to lay Roy Hill railway on end of combined rail sleeper train 06/08.





CD4303 on the rail sleeper train about 90km south 6th August.

Both photos Toad Montgomery



Empty FMG ore train crossing CD4303 on Roy Hill rail sleeper train at Breccia bore field pipeline 06/08.





FMG line crossing Wodgina Road with Roy Hill line in background 6th August. Photo Toad Montgomery



John Holland combined rail and sleeper wagon on Roy Hill construction train at 90km 6th August.





CD4303 on rail sleeper train on newly laid track about 90km south 6th August. Photo Toad Montgomery



Track machine works spur on FMG Solomon line at Capel crossing loop 3/8. Photo Toad Montgomery





FMG 006 & 901 on empty ore at 255km Roebourne Wittenoom Road crossing 3rd August.



FMG Capel crossing loop between the 260 and 263km on Solomon line 3/8.

Photo Toad Montgomery





FMG 905 & 007 approaching Avon loop for crossing 4th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery



905 & 007 on main line as runs along Avon loop for cross 4th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery





Avon crossing loop with loaded 905 & 007 crossing empty 714 & 901 on 4/8. Photo Toad Montgomery



FMG 714 & 901 on empty ore departing Avon loop for Solomon Hub 4/8. Photo Toad Montgomery





FMG Solomon line crossing BHPBIO Newman line at Nunna 179km on 4th August. Photo Toad Montgomery



BHPBIO ore running beneath FMG bridge over Mt Newman line at Nunna 4/8. Photo Toad Montgomery





FMG CW44-9W 009 & 005 on empty ore at 50km on 6th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery



FMG 714 & 901 on loaded ore crossing empty ore in Canning loop 6th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery





BHPBIO SD70ACe 4407 & 4427 on empty ore heading south taken from FMG Canning loop 6/8.



FMG 721 & 717 on empty ore at 87.5km Wodgina Road crossing 6/8.

Both photos Toad Montgomery





FMG 706, 009 & 907 loaded on west main passing empty on east main duplicated section Durak 95km 6/8.



BHPBIO 4379 & 4414 on empty ore crossing under FMG Solomon line 6/8. Both photos Toad Montgomery





DPU units 4447 & 4669 on empty crossing under FMG Solomon line at Spring [FMG Nunna] 6/8.



FMG 010, 707 & 008 off Solomon line about to join mainline at Nunna 6/8. Both photos Toad Montgomery





FMG 013, 003 & 712 on empty ore on main line about to cross over BHPBIO line at Woodstock 6/8.



FMG 013, 003 & 712 on empty ore crossing BHPBIO line at Woodstock 6/8. Both photos Toad Montgomery





BHPBIO 4379 & 4414 on ore going under FMG crossover at Woodstock 6/8. Photo Toad Montgomery



DPU units SD70ACe 4447 & CM40-8M 5669 going under FMG line 6th August. Photo Toad Montgomery





Five empty BHPBio trains at Mooka staging facility waiting to depart 8th August. Photo Toad Montgomery



Prep shed at Boodarie with SD70ACe being serviced 7th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery





BHPBio Boodarie service facility, staging roads, two track main to Finucane Island new line on old road 7/8.



Boodarie wagon repair, service facility and FMG operations in distance 7/8. Both photos Toad Montgomery





SD70ACE 4433 & 4443 on ready track Boodarie with FMG train their loop 7/8. Photo Toad Montgomery



Boodarie service facility showing two track main line where for nearly 50 years there was road to Finucane Island, new road is about 100 metres east of line not adjacent as previously 7/8. Photo Toad Montgomery





Boodarie maintenance and service facility 14th August.

Both photos Toad Montgomery



Boodarie maintenance and service facility, ready tracks and mainlines to Finucane Island 14/08.





Boodarie ready tracks and main line and FMG conveyor belt at rear 14th August. Photo Toad Montgomery



BHPBIO 4340 & 4354 on empty ore rake waiting to enter Boodarie Yard 14/08. Photo Toad Montgomery





Sign at entry to Roy Hill flashbutt welding yard Port Hedland 14th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery



Roy Hill Iron Ore Project entry sign at Port Hedland 14th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery





Northern end of the Roy Hill line at Port Hedland 14th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery



Another view of northern end of Roy Hill line at Port Hedland looking south 14/8. Photo Toad Montgomery





Formation for Roy Hill line at Port Hedland looking north 14th August.

Photo Toad Montgomery